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**DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, flooding has occurred in various interior and western Alaska river drainages, including the Tanana, Kuskokwim, Nushagak, Susitna, and Yukon River drainages, beginning on April 27, 2002, and continuing; and

WHEREAS, the floods have caused a disaster resulting in widespread damage to and loss of property and threat to life and property in the Fairbanks North Star Borough in the Tanana River drainage; in McGrath, Lime Village, Sleetmute, Red Devil, Crooked Creek, Aniak, and Kwethluk in the Kuskokwim River drainage; in Ekwok and New Stuyahok in the Nushagak River drainage; in the area of the Susitna River drainage from Chase to Montana Creek, and in Emmonak in the Yukon River drainage; and

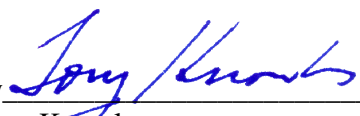
WHEREAS the following conditions exist as a result of this disaster: widespread damage to public facilities and infrastructure, including damage to public airports, roads, and buildings; to public utilities, including water, sewer, and electrical utilities; to personal residences, in some areas requiring evacuation and sheltering of residents; to commercial operations; and to other public and private real and personal property; and

WHEREAS, the severity and magnitude of the emergency are beyond the timely and effective response and recovery capabilities of local resources and further repairs and damage mitigation will be necessary; and

WHEREAS, there are insufficient regularly appropriated funds to cover these requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this \_\_\_\_ day of May, 2002, under the authority granted by Alaska Statute, Section 26.23.020(c), I hereby declare that a condition of disaster exists in the Fairbanks North Star Borough in the Tanana River drainage; in McGrath, Lime Village, Sleetmute, Red Devil, Crooked Creek, Aniak, and Kwethluk in the Kuskokwim River drainage; in Ekwok and New Stuyahok in the Nushagak River drainage; in the area of the Susitna River drainage from Chase to Montana Creek, and in Emmonak in the Yukon River drainage; and

FURTHER, the director of the Alaska Division of Emergency Services (ADES), is hereby authorized to use funds made available for these purposes which are considered necessary for disaster response and assistance, and necessary administrative and disaster management expenses. State funds are proposed to be spent under AS 26.23.020(i). The director of ADES is authorized to task, as necessary, the state departments and agencies in accordance with State Emergency Plans; and is further authorized to exercise, as necessary, the provisions provided under Alaska Statutes 26.23.020(g)(4), (5), (6), (7), (9) and (10).

By   
Tony Knowles  
Governor